



Wide range of services to be offered at U.S. Army Europe Retiree Appreciation Day

HEIDELBERG, Germany – Retirees can take advantage of the many services offered during U.S. Army Europe's 24th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion here from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. September 11.

"The Retiree Appreciation Day is a great opportunity for retirees to present their concerns personally to a representative. The representatives are here to address issues and ensure they are resolved. This event has a lot to offer and it is our way of saying thank you," explained 1st Personnel Command Retirement Service Officer Robert McEntire.

Retirees living overseas do not have access to a toll-free number for Retired Pay Operations, which can make it more difficult to resolve any problems or concerns they have about their retired pay.

Retirees will need to bring change of address forms, direct deposit forms, allotment forms, Arrears of Pay beneficiary forms, and federal tax withholding forms to the event, to address those issues. Retirees and annuitants who want to make any of these changes can complete the necessary forms during Retiree Appreciation Day.

"We will have access to the retired and annuity pay system and will - make changes on the spot," said McEntire.

If retirees are reporting the death of a spouse to suspend Survivor Benefit Plan costs, they must provide a copy of a spouse's death certificate. If they are reporting a divorce, they must provide a certified English translation of the divorce decree to suspend the SBP cost.

Issuing identification cards is one of the most important services that will be offered that day. ID cards provide retirees access to their military benefits such as Tricare, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and commissaries. ID cards will be issued and personal records checked to ensure retirees are enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Documentation such as marriage certificates, birth certificates, divorce papers, as well as old ID cards or other ID with a photo (such as a passport or driver's license), are necessary for ID cards to be issued.

A National Personnel Records Center representative will assist retirees with military personnel and medical records questions and problems. Since the NPRC also has custody of dependent medical records, they will assist with questions or problems relating to their records as well.

The Nachrichten Kaserne Dental Clinic will open its doors at 9 a.m. to provide retirees and their family members with general screening services. Dental officials say their goal is to provide retirees and their family members with oral screening and emergency services, and say they will perform as many examinations as possible. Retirees from outside the Heidelberg military community should bring their dental records if available, and all retirees must bring their ID cards to receive dental services.

The U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Heidelberg, and the Wellness Center will also offer retirees a variety of health care services and information during the event. Heart health, self-care, breast and prostate cancer information, and other topics will be highlighted. Health care providers will review retirees' preventive annual health screenings and discuss lifestyle behavior changes and appropriate follow-up actions. A dietitian will provide information on diabetes and

diet. Retirees and their family members can have their hearing and blood pressure checked and get glaucoma screenings.

In addition to pay, personnel and health assistance, officials say there will be many other services available to retirees and their family members during the event.